

**DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
SOLID WASTE PROGRAM
610 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, AK 99709-3643**

**Telephone: (907) 451-2134
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File Number: 140.15.017

October 6, 2000

CERTIFIED MAIL - RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED # 7000-0520-0017-6849-2241

John R. Hasz
Church of the Living Word, Inc.
P.O. Box 1229
Delta Junction, AK 99737

Re: Whitestone Farms Land Application of Septage, Solid Waste Permit #0033-BA001

Dear Mr. Hasz:

The Department of Environmental Conservation has completed its evaluation of your solid waste permit renewal request for landspreading treated domestic septage for agricultural reclamation at Whitestone Farms. The limed septage will be land applied to portions of Whitestone Farms on newly cleared agricultural land used to grow livestock forage. This permit applies to approximately 3 acres, located in Sections 12, Township 9 South, Range 9 East, Fairbanks Meridian near Delta Junction, Alaska.

The Department is issuing this permit in accordance with AS 46, 18 AAC 15, and 18 AAC 60. Please review the conditions and stipulations in the permit and ensure they are all understood. This permit is effective upon issuance and expires September 15, 2005. If it is necessary to obtain a renewal of this permit, the Department requires that a renewal application be submitted 30 days before the permit expiration date.

Any person who disagrees with the Department's decision to issue this permit may appeal the decision by requesting an adjudicatory hearing, using the procedures contained in 18 AAC 15.200-310. Hearing requests must be delivered to the Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Conservation, 655 Cordova St., Anchorage AK 99501, within 30 days after the permit is issued. If a hearing is not requested within 30 days, the right to appeal is waived. Even if an adjudicatory hearing has been requested and granted, all permit conditions remain in full force and effect. Please also send a copy of the request to Heather Stockard, ADEC Solid Waste Program Manager, 410 Willoughby Ave., Suite 303, Juneau, AK 99801-1795.

Sincerely,

Heather T. Stockard
Solid Waste Program Manager

Enclosure: Permit 0033-BA001

Bcc w/enc: Nancy Sonafrank, ADEC/SW, Fairbanks

**ALASKA DEPARTMENT
OF
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH
610 UNIVERSITY AVENUE
FAIRBANKS, ALASKA 99709-3643**

DOMESTIC SEPTAGE LANDSPREADING PERMIT

Permit: **0033-BA001**

Date: October 6, 2000

This Solid Waste Disposal Permit is issued to the Church of the Living Word, Inc. aka Whitestone Farms, P.O. Box 1229, Delta Junction, AK 99737, for the land application of domestic septage at Whitestone Farms. This permit applies to approximately 3 acres, located in Sections 12, Township 9 South, Range 9 East, Fairbanks Meridian near Delta Junction, Alaska. This permit is subject to the conditions and stipulations in the following Appendices:

Appendix A	Specific Conditions
Appendix B	General Permit Conditions

This permit is issued under provisions of Alaska Statute 46.03, the Alaska Administrative Code, as amended or revised, and other applicable State laws and regulations.

This permit is effective upon issuance and expires September 15, 2005. It may be terminated or modified in accordance with AS 46.03.120.

Heather T. Stockard
Solid Waste Program Manager

APPENDIX A - SPECIFIC CONDITIONS

I. SITE DEVELOPMENT:

The permit holder shall:

- A. Comply with the plans and landspreading locations submitted in the renewal application dated July 7, 2000, and the letter amendments dated July 28, 2000 and August 29, 2000, as well as the following permit conditions. Additional modifications may be requested, but must be authorized by a permit amendment, before that modification is effective.

The term “domestic septage” is used in this permit refer only to liquid or solid material removed from a septic tank cesspool, portable toilet type III marine sanitation device or a similar system that receives only domestic septage (household, non-commercial, non-industrial sewage) as described in 40 CFR Part 503.13, .14 and .15, adopted by reference in 18 AAC 60.505. This permit does not address or allow other types of industrial sludges to be landspread.

- B. Ensure that site development will allow for application of domestic septage at an appropriate (dry tons per acre) agronomic application rate for nitrogen, based on the dry weight content of nitrogen present in the domestic septage and on any residual nitrogen present in the soil for areas that have been previously landspread.
- C. Ensure that a minimum 50-foot horizontal distance is maintained between the area being landspread and the property boundary.
- D. Ensure that surface water run off from outside the facility does not flow onto the facility and over, into or through uncovered domestic septage by incorporating the domestic septage into the surface soils and by constructing and maintaining diversion structures such as ditches or berms, as needed. Maintain drainage patterns in the application area through the installation of drainage structures of adequate number and size to prevent flooding or excessive drainage of adjacent land and to prevent any water quality violations.

II. DOMESTIC SEPTAGE HAULING AND APPLICATION

The permit holder shall:

- A. Ensure only tested domestic septage is landspread at this facility. Domestic septage being landspread must meet the Class A or B pathogen reduction requirements of 40 CFR Part 503.32(a) and the Vector Attraction Reduction requirements of Option 12 of 40 CFR Part 503.15 (alkaline treatment of domestic septage) unless otherwise approved in writing by ADEC. These sections are adopted by reference in 18 AAC 60.505. Should the source or quality of domestic septage change significantly, the Department will be notified immediately.

II. DOMESTIC SEPTAGE HAULING AND APPLICATION (cont.)

B. Ensure domestic septage transport and alkaline treatment requirements listed below are followed:

1. Transport liquid domestic septage to the application sites in tanker trucks or other vehicles or containers fitted with positive sealing devices..
2. All domestic septage hauling and alkaline treatment will be accomplished on the same day. Stockpiling of domestic septage at the application sites is not permitted, unless they are stored in leak-proof, sealed tanks.
3. Before landspreading, add sufficient lime to raise the pH of the septage to at least 12 and hold the pH at 12 or above for a minimum of 30 minutes during which no additional alkaline material may be added.
4. Use flag pins or stakes, clearly marking areas in the fields where domestic septage has been land applied, noting dates of application.
5. Domestic septage shall not be applied to the land surface during a precipitation event in which the rainfall exceeds 1/4 inch per hour, or within 24 hours following a precipitation event in which more than 1/2 inch of rainfall is measured.

C. Maintain a minimum four-foot separation distance between the domestic septage application layer and the seasonal high groundwater level.

D. Ensure domestic septage is landspread only when soils are thawed and workable, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Solid Waste Program, Fairbanks Office. Placement of domestic septage on snow-covered ground is prohibited.

E. Prohibit landspreading of domestic septage on slopes of greater than 7% for tilled ground and 12% for vegetated ground, unless controls are present to prevent runoff and erosion.

F. Ensure that public access to the domestic septage application area is controlled during application times. Construct and maintain any onsite roads, gates, or temporary barricades, as necessary, to assure adequate traffic control. Adequate traffic control means that the site supervisor will maintain positive control of all persons who are within the application area boundaries and that domestic septage will be applied only in approved locations..

G. Maintain a minimum horizontal separation distance of 50 feet between application areas and any surface water located in the proposed application sites.

II. DOMESTIC SEPTAGE HAULING AND APPLICATION (cont.)

H. If domestic septage meeting only the Class B pathogen reduction requirements (as defined in 40 CFR Part 503.32) are to be land applied, then the following site restrictions must be followed:

1. Ensure that domestic septage is applied only in agricultural areas with low public contact.
2. The crop restrictions in 40 CFR Part 503.32(b)(5)(i) through (b)(5)(iv) shall be met. These sections are adopted by reference in 18 AAC 60.505.
3. Erect and maintain readily visible signs every 200 feet along normal access routes at the application site, for at least 38 months after land application. Signs should contain the following information, printed in one-inch high or larger lettering:

Domestic Septage Landspreading Area
May Not Be Suitable for Some Food Crops
Contact Person Name
Telephone Number

I. Ensure that in the event of any domestic septage spill incident in excess of one cubic yard, it is reported to ADEC at (907-451-2108). Clean up of any amount of spilled material shall be initiated within 8 hours after the spill occurs. The spilled material shall be cleaned up as described in the Spill Plan, dated August 29, 2000 and the residue removed to the permitted landspreading area. Monitoring to assess potential environmental quality damages to the spill area will be done, if deemed necessary by the Department.

III. PROHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL RESTRICTIONS

The permit holder shall:

- A. Prohibit land application of domestic septage to soils which are frozen or covered with snow.
- B. Prohibit the application of domestic septage in excess of the agronomic requirements for nitrogen for plant species being grown.
- C. Prohibit disposal of commercial or household wastes, vehicles, and construction/demolition debris or any hazardous wastes at this site.

IV. MONITORING AND RECORD KEEPING

The permit holder shall:

- A. Visually monitor the application sites each month when the ground is not covered with snow, for signs of potential drainage problems due to erosion or operations, and retain the inspection results in the facility's operating record for Department review during inspections. Visual inspection records shall be retained for at least five years.
- B. Ensure that the domestic septage is treated with lime and tested for pH levels no more than 48 hours prior to their application to ensure that Class B pathogen reduction levels have been met and regrowth of pathogens will not occur before land application.
- C. Maintain the following in the facility operating record for at least 5 years.
 - 1. The location of the site where domestic septage is applied, either the street address, legal description or the longitude and latitude.
 - 2. The number of acres to which domestic septage is applied at each site.
 - 3. The date and time of each domestic septage application.
 - 4. The nitrogen requirement for the crop or vegetation grown on each site during the year.
 - 5. The total gallons of septage which are applied to the site during the specified 365-day period.
 - 6. The signed certification statements using the Certification Form, dated August 29, 2000, describing the pathogen reduction and vector attraction reduction methods used.
- D. Submit an annual domestic septage management report by November 1 of each year to the Department. Information in the report should include: a map showing the areas that have been landspread; information as to the application rates, acreage used for application and total number of gallons of domestic septage that have been landspread during the application season.

V. CLOSURE AND RESTORATION

The permit holder shall:

- A. Notify the Department at least **five** working days before the project is complete and the final truckload of domestic septage will be placed at the site.
- B. Ensure that the areas which have had land application of domestic septage have been graded to promote and maintain surface water runoff without erosion. Complete additional surface restoration work and revegetation, if the Department determines that significant erosion or lack of agricultural use has occurred within five years after site closure.

APPENDIX B - GENERAL PERMIT CONDITIONS

I. ACCESS AND INSPECTION

The permittee shall allow the Commissioner or her/his representative access to the permitted facilities at reasonable times to conduct scheduled or unscheduled inspections or tests to determine compliance with this permit, State laws, and regulations.

II. INFORMATION ACCESS

Except for information relating to confidential processes or methods of manufacture, all records and reports submitted in accordance with the terms of this permit shall be available for public inspection at the State of Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation, Fairbanks Office, 610 University Avenue, Fairbanks, Alaska 99709-3643.

III. CIVIL AND CRIMINAL LIABILITY

Nothing in this permit shall relieve the permittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance, whether or not such noncompliance is due to factors beyond his control, including, but not limited to, accidents, equipment breakdowns, or labor disputes.

IV. AVAILABILITY

The permittee shall post or maintain a copy of this permit available to the public at the disposal facility.

V. ADVERSE IMPACT

The permittee shall take all necessary means to minimize any adverse impacts to the receiving waters or lands resulting from noncompliance with any limitation specified in this permit, including any additional monitoring needed to determine the nature and impact of the noncomplying activity. The permittee shall cleanup and restore all areas adversely impacted by the noncompliance.

VI. CULTURAL OR PALEONTOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Should cultural or paleontological resources be discovered as a result of this activity, work which would disturb such resources is to be stopped, and the State Historic Preservation Office, Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation, Department of Natural Resources, is to be notified immediately (907-269-8721).

VII. APPLICATIONS FOR RENEWAL

In accordance with 18 AAC 15.100(d), applications for renewal or amendment of this permit must be made no later than 30 days before the expiration date of the permit or the planned effective date of the amendment.

VIII. OTHER LEGAL OBLIGATIONS

The requirements, duties, and obligations set forth in this permit are in addition to any requirements, duties, or obligations contained in any permit that the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has issued or may issue to the permittee. This permit does not relieve the permittee from the duty to obtain any and all necessary permits and to comply with the requirements contained in any such permit or with applicable state and federal laws and regulations. All activities conducted by the permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit and all plans implemented by the permittee pursuant to the terms of this permit shall comply with all applicable state and federal laws and regulations.

IX. POLLUTION PREVENTION

In order to prevent and minimize present and future pollution, when making management decisions that affect waste generation, the permittee shall consider the following order of priority options: waste source reduction; recycling of waste; waste treatment; and waste disposal.